

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 A-01 OPR-02 SSO-00 RSC-01 /022 R

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APPROVED BY EA/EX:EECHAMPAGNE, JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: AFSP

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY

1. CONGRESSMAN WAYNE HAYS HAS REQUESTED DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON LETTER HE HAS RECEIVED FROM MR. FRANK M. PALIAN, C/O AMERICAN EMBASSY, TAIPEI, TAIWAN. LETTER CONCERNS (A) EXCHANGE AND COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES AND (B) CONGRESSIONAL MAIL OPENED BY EMBASSY PERSONNEL. FIRST SUBJECT HAS BEEN REFERRED TO DOD FOR DIRECT REPLY TO CONGRESSMAN HAYS. EMBASSY REQUESTED SUPPLY INFO ON WHICH TO BASE REPLY ON SECOND SUBJECT. PERTINENT PARTS OF PALIAN LETTER TO MR. HAYS AS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN ARE QUOTED BELOW:
QTE DEAR MR. HAYS: THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER, BUT I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY I SHOULD RECEIVE THE LETTER IN AN OPEN CONDITION. AND DID NOT RECEIVE IT AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY ROOM, BUT AT THE OFFICE OF LT COL BLAMTON, U.S-A., ROOM 116, TAIPEI DEFENSE COMMAND BUILDING (TDC). THIS OFFICER IS THE SAME PERSON THAT ANSWERED YOUR CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY, INTERVIEWED ME AND IS SUPPOSE TO BE IN CONTROL OF WHOM THAT CAN RECEIVE THE EXCHANGE AND COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES.

QTE SIR, SINCE DEC 1973 I HAVE (HERE IN TAIPEI) BEEN RECEIVING MAIL, FOUR (4) OF THESE LETTERS WERE REGISTERED AND NOT ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN OPENED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF

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YOUR LETTER. ALL ADDRESSED IN C/O AMERICAN EMBASSY AND RECEIVED IN THEIR MAIL ROOM.

QTE NOW WHY WAS YOUR LETTER, ADDRESSED TO ME, OPENED AT THE AMERICAN CONSULAR SECTION WHICH IS IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE CITY TAIPEI AND FORWARD TO ME IN THIS COMMUTATION. THE DATE I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER 0930 28 MAY 1974. APPRENTLY THE LETTER WASN'T THAT IMPORTANT TO BE BROADCAST OVER FEN TAIWAN.

QTE ENCLOSED IS A COPY OF THE STATEMENT BY THE AMERICAN CONSULAR SECTION WHY THE LETTER WAS OPEN. UNQTE

2. NOTE TO EMBASSY: THERE FOLLOWS A PHOTOCOPY OF MEMO QTE FROM THE DESK OF FLORENCE C. ADAMSON UNQTE DATED MAY 9, 1974 WITH FOLLOWING TEXT.

QTE DEAR CDR FOX: ATTACHED IS A LETTER TO FRANK M. PALIAN FROM CONGRESSMAN HAYS. IT HAS BOUNCED AROUND THE EMBASSY FROM THE MAIL ROOM TO THE CONSULAR SECTION AND BACK AND FORTH. I FINALLY OPENED IT TO SEE IF THERE WAS A LOCAL ADDRESS FOR MR. PALIAN. THERE WAS NO ADDRESS, BUT IT IS ABOUT PX AND COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES, SO THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE A RECORD OF HIM OR KNOW HOW TO CONTACT HIM.

QTE WE CHECKED OUR CARDS FOR RETIRED MILITARY PERSONNEL GETTING CHECKS THROUGH THIS OFFICE. NO LUCK. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS, MAYBE THE LETTER SHOULD BE RETURNED TO CONGRESSMAN HAYS. /S/ FLORENCE C. ADAMSON, AMERICAN CONSUL UNQTE.

3. REMAINDER OF PALIAN LETTER IS ONSUBJECT OF EXCHANGE AND COMMISSARY WHICH, AS NOTED ABOVE, HAS BEEN REFERRED TO DOD.

4. DEPT'S REPLY TO CONGRESSMAN HAYS IS DUE BY JULY 15. EMBASSY'S RESPONSE SHOULD INCLUDE REASON FOR OPENING CONGRESSIONAL MAIL, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF PALIAN'S STATEMENT THAT HE HAD PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED MAIL, INCLUDING REGISTRIES, IN EMBASSY MAIL ROOM. KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE151173
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DAWETHERBEE:JY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740187-0478
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740786/aaaahbnn.tel
Line Count: 104
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971028
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY
TAGS: AFSP, CH, TW, AFSP
To: TAIPEI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005